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Title: Need to incorporate realistic amendments in building bylaws permitting habitable space in residential buildings in Chandigarh Union Territory. − Laid.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL (CHANDIGARH): In tune with the needs of changing times the Chandigarh UT Administration has permitted change of land use in industrial area and carried out additional construction in important government buildings but the question of a pragmatic amendment to the building bylaws is yet to be addressed. As a result over ninety percent of the house owners and allottees of Housing Board flats continue to face harassment. With the increase in size of families over the last three decades, there is a concomitant increase in the need for additional space in all categories of dwelling units. However, the amendments carried out in the building bylaws have never been commensurate with the needs or realistic in nature. Because of the enormity of the changes otherwise carried out, it would be imprudent to even contemplate a demolition on a vast scale as that would create a host of other problems besides causing a heavy national loss and waste a scarce resources.

There is, therefore, an urgent need to incorporate realistic amendments in the building bylaws permitting additional habitable space keeping in mind the structural safety and architectural aesthetics and then enforce that on a regular basis. I urge the Government to do likewise.